

Message Text

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43

ACTION PA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 RSC-01

SP-03 /051 W

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R 141615Z JUNE 74

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2079

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STUTTGART 0546

FOR PA/PS WILLIAM TOOMEY FROM CONSUL GENERAL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN

SUBJECT: SISTER CITIES ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN AND TUEBINGEN GERMANY

REF: MY LETTER MAY 10

1. NO DOUBT YOU HAVE BEEN PRESSED BY MORE IMPORTANT TASKS BUT MAYOR OF TUEBINGEN GMELIN AND, NOW THE PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF TUEBINGEN, THEIS, ARE BECOMING SO DISAFFECTED BY OSTENSIBLE LACK OF COURTESY AND RESPONSIVENESS, THAT TUEBINGEN CITY COUNCIL EXPECTED TO MEET WEEK OF JUNE 16 TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THEY SHOULDN'T CANCEL LONG STANDING PLAN TO SEND DELEGATION TO 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANN ARBOR JULY 23.

2. LATEST WRINKLE IN "CRISIS" WAS LETTER TO TUEBINGEN, SAYING ANN ARBOR WOULD NOT MAKE A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THEIS IN CONNECTION WITH LATTER'S DESIRE ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN. LETTER SENT BY CARL ZWINCK NOT BY MAYOR JAMES E. STEPHENSON HIMSELF.

3. IF POSSIBLE, SUGGEST YOU TELEPHONE MAYOR STEPHENSON'S OFFICE AND REQUEST HE SEND MESSAGE, HOPEFULLY TELEGRAM, TO GMELIN JUNE 17 LATEST SAYING ANN ARBOR WILL WELCOME BOTH DELEGATION, AS HE EARLIER SAID, AND THEIS, AS IT

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NOW DEVELOPS, AND THAT ANN ARBOR PLEASED TUEBINGEN CONTINUING TRADITIONAL SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT MESSAGE BE SIGNED BY STEPHENSON AND NOT BY CARL ZWINCK. LATTER IS PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE VAIR-MAN FOR ANN ARBOR BUT FOR PROTOCOL REASONS, AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, BECAUSE STEPHENSON'S PREDECESSOR HIMSELF PLAYED DIRECT ROLE IN SISTER CITY TIE, TUEBINGEN CITY HALL CONSIDERS MESSAGES FROM ZWINCK, WHICH OFTEN CRUDE AND UNDIPLOMATIC, AS BORDERING ON BRUSH-OFF BY ANN ARBOR.

4. SORRY TO BOTHER YOU WITH SEEMING TRIVIA, BUT TUEBINGEN IS IMPORTANT TO OUR LOCAL INFORMATIONAL AND CULTURAL EFFORTS, NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF OUR BI-NATIONAL USIS CENTER THERE WHICH PARTIALLY FINANCED BY TUEBINGEN, AND BECAUSE OF CENTER'S RELATIONS WITH UNIVERSITY OF TUEBINGEN, ONE OF BEST UNIVERSITIES IN GERMANY. RUCHTI

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STUTT00546
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740155-0340
From: STUTTGART
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740684/aaaahcek.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MY LETTER MAY 10
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971029
Subject: SISTER CITIES ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN AND TUEBINGEN GERMANY
TAGS: SGEN, GE, US, SGEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005